

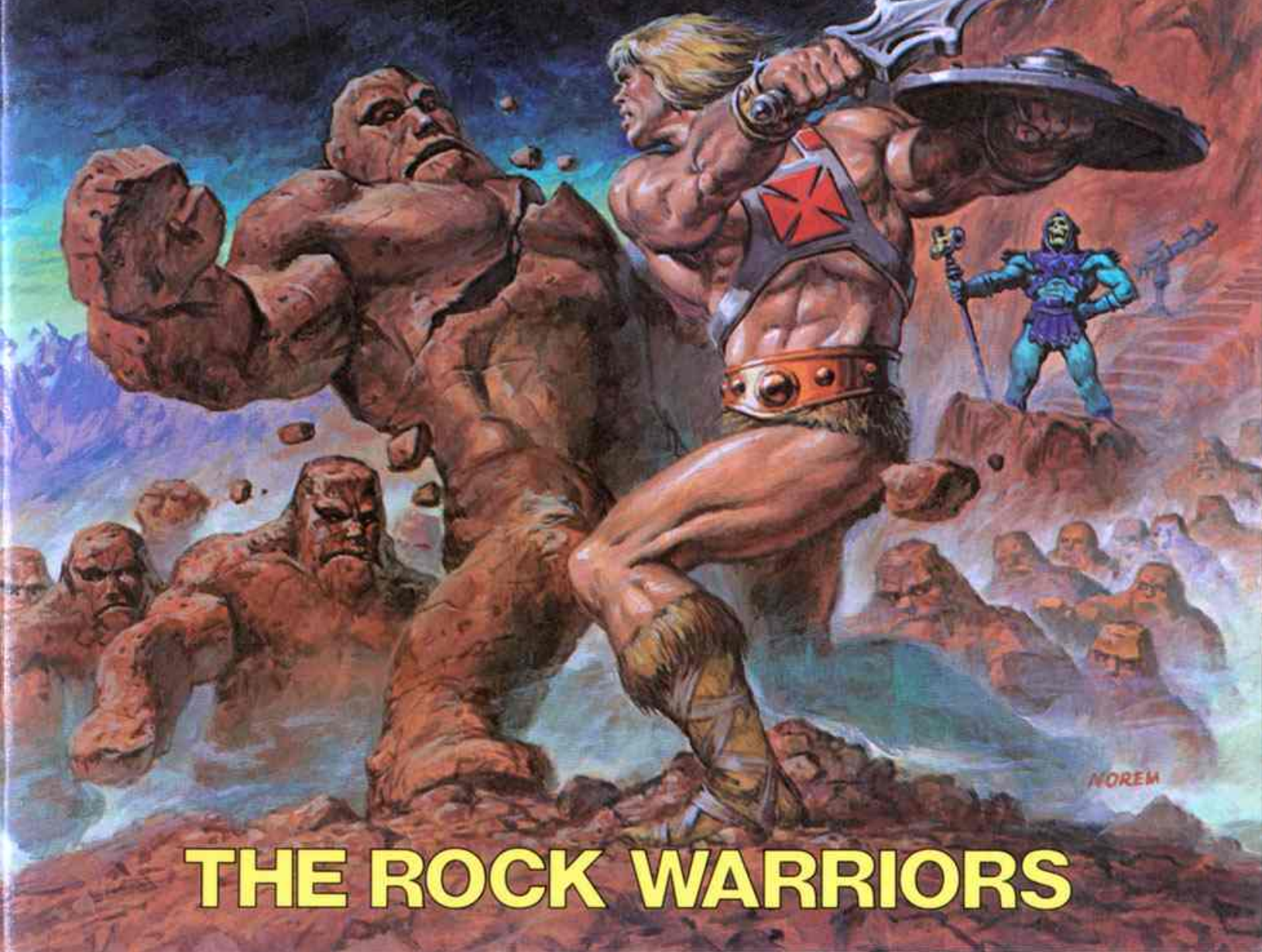


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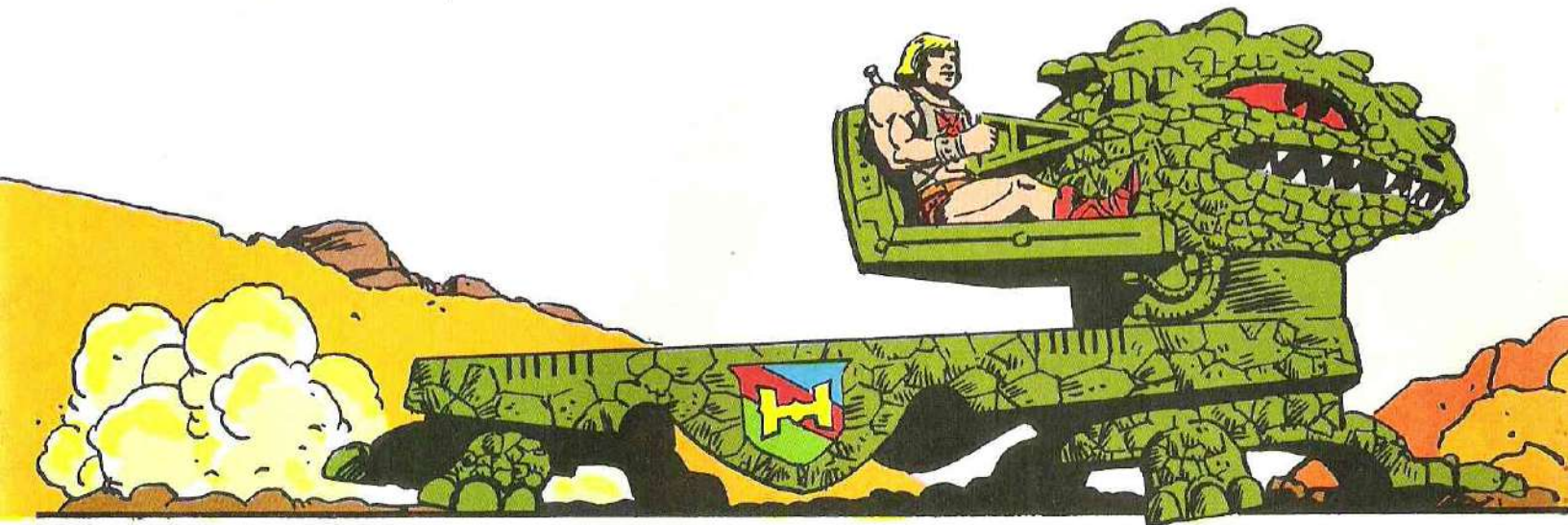


THE ROCK WARRIORS



THE ROCK WARRIORS

by MICHAEL KIRSCHENBAUM
illustrated by FRED CARRILLO



A GOLDEN BOOK • NEW YORK
Western Publishing Company, Inc., Racine, Wisconsin 53404

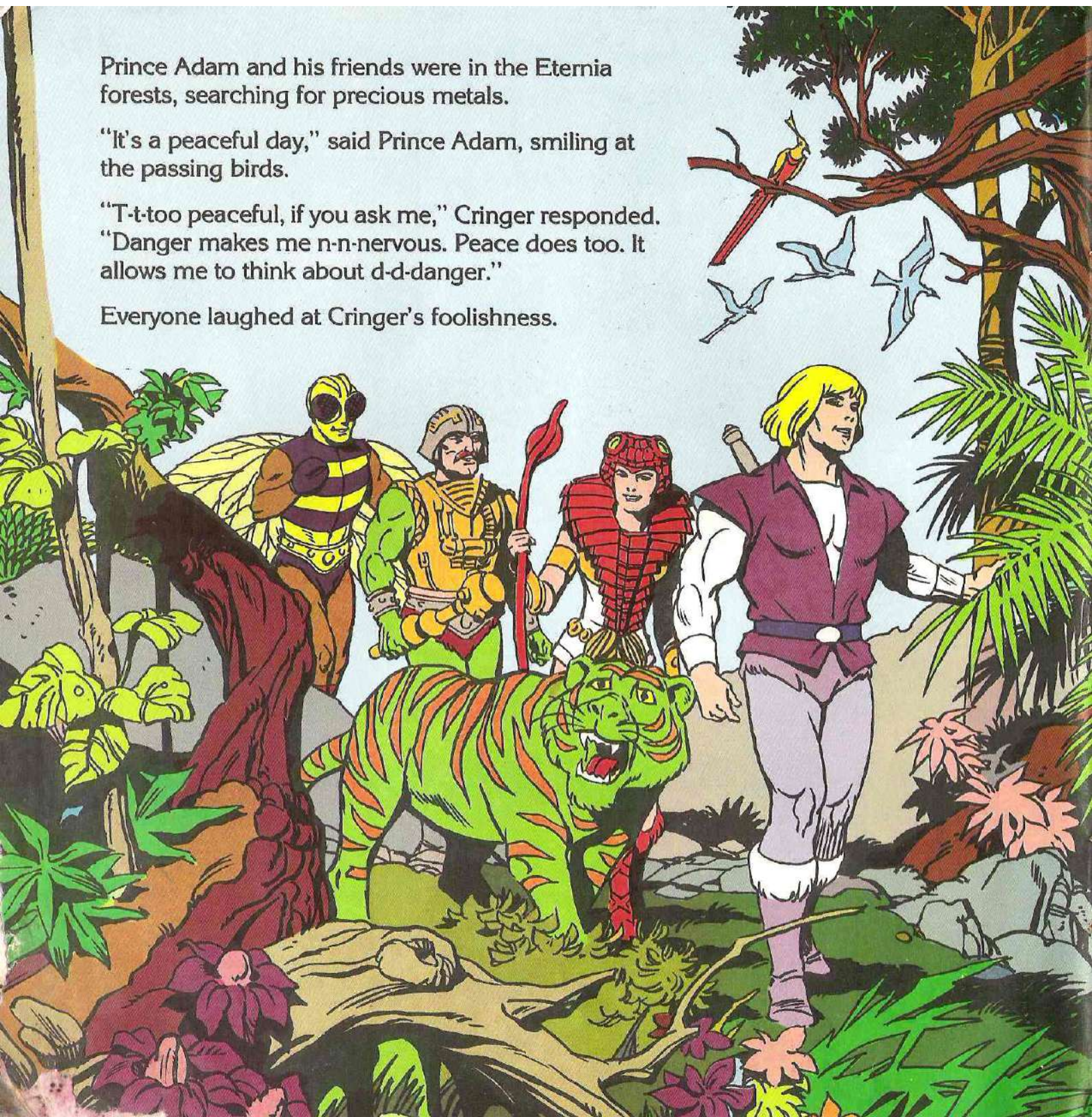
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Prince Adam and his friends were in the Eternia forests, searching for precious metals.

"It's a peaceful day," said Prince Adam, smiling at the passing birds.

"T-t-too peaceful, if you ask me," Cringer responded. "Danger makes me n-n-nervous. Peace does too. It allows me to think about d-d-danger."

Everyone laughed at Cringer's foolishness.





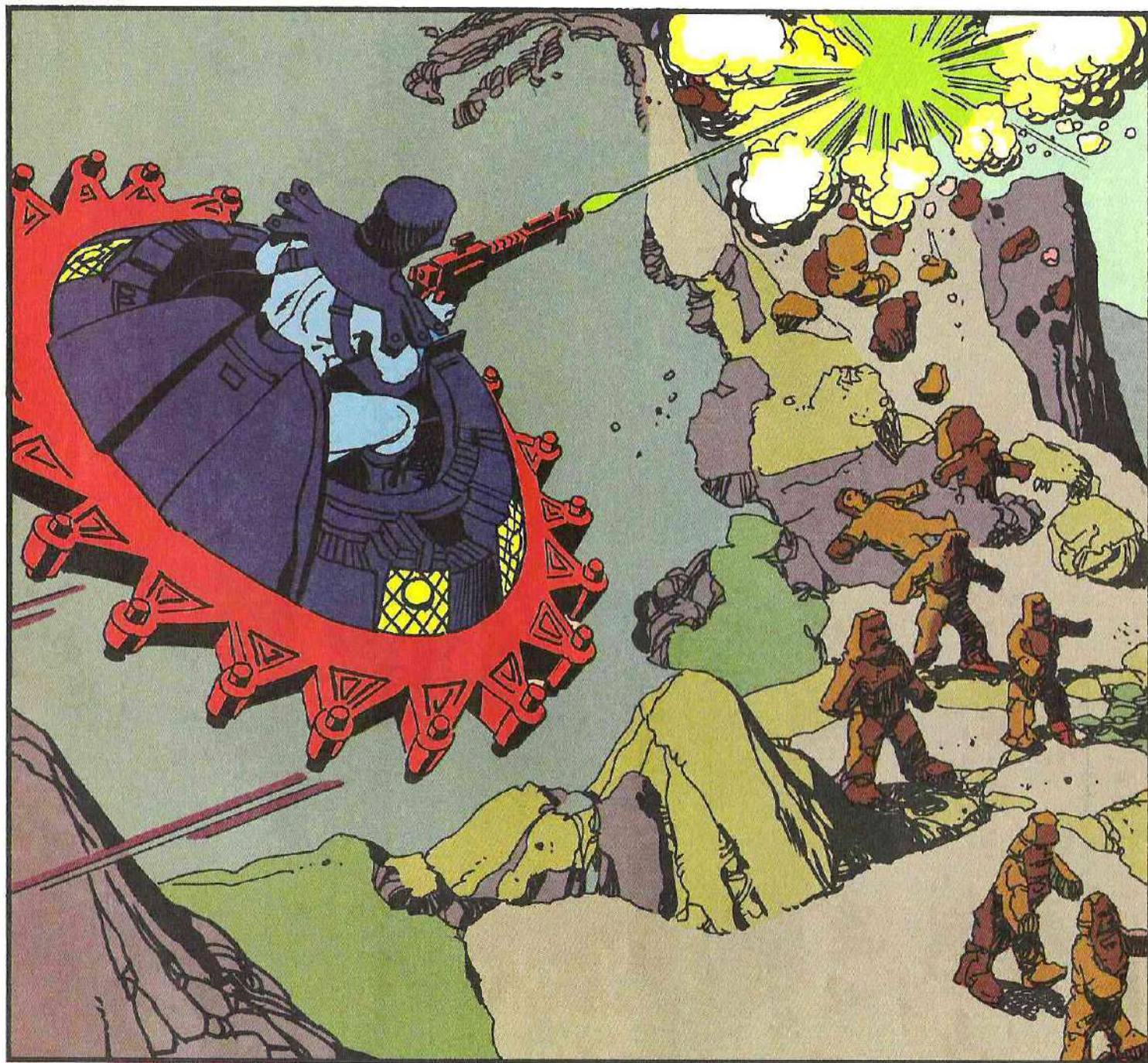
But the instincts of the timid cat were right. Jitsu and Webstor, two evil cohorts of Skeletor, waited to do battle with Prince Adam and his friends. "Why do they want to fight?" wondered Teela, Captain of the Guards. "They are so few."



Even without Prince Adam, the Heroic Warriors were able to defeat Jitsu and Webstor.



But Jitsu and Webster were only a trap. High above in Roton, Skeletor fired his latest weapon—the Stone Ray. It blasted rocks out of the mountainside that came to life as—the Rock Warriors!



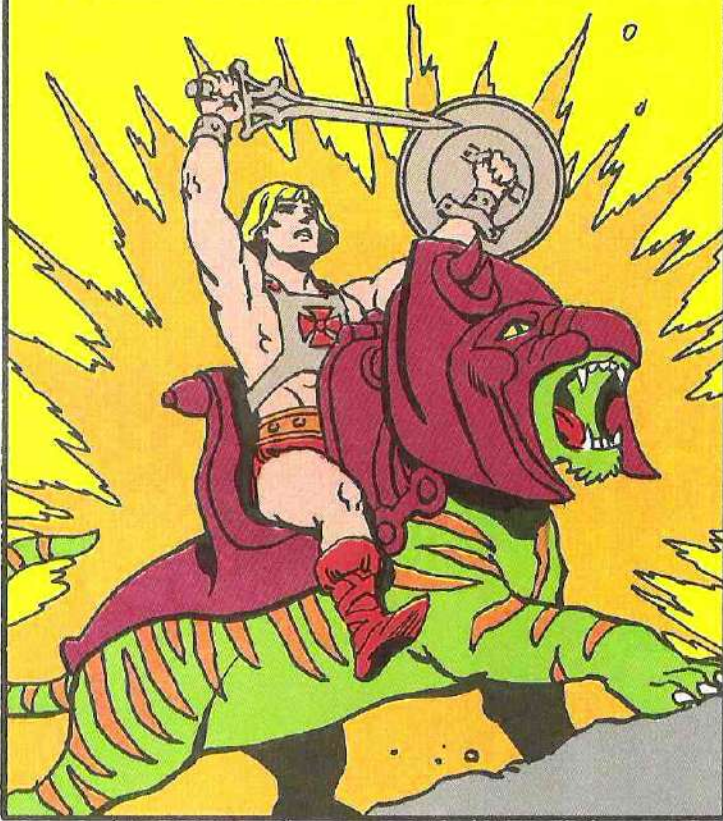
The tide turned against Teela and the forces of good.



And now to
attack the Palace
of Eternia!



By the power of Castle Grayskull, Prince Adam had transformed into He-Man, the most powerful man in the universe. And cowardly Cringer had become the ferocious Battle Cat.



With He-Man in the battle, short work was made of the Rock Warriors. When every Rock Warrior had been destroyed, Buzz-Off came to He-Man and told him of Skeletor's plan. Alarmed, He-Man said, "Quickly! We must go to the Palace of Eternia."



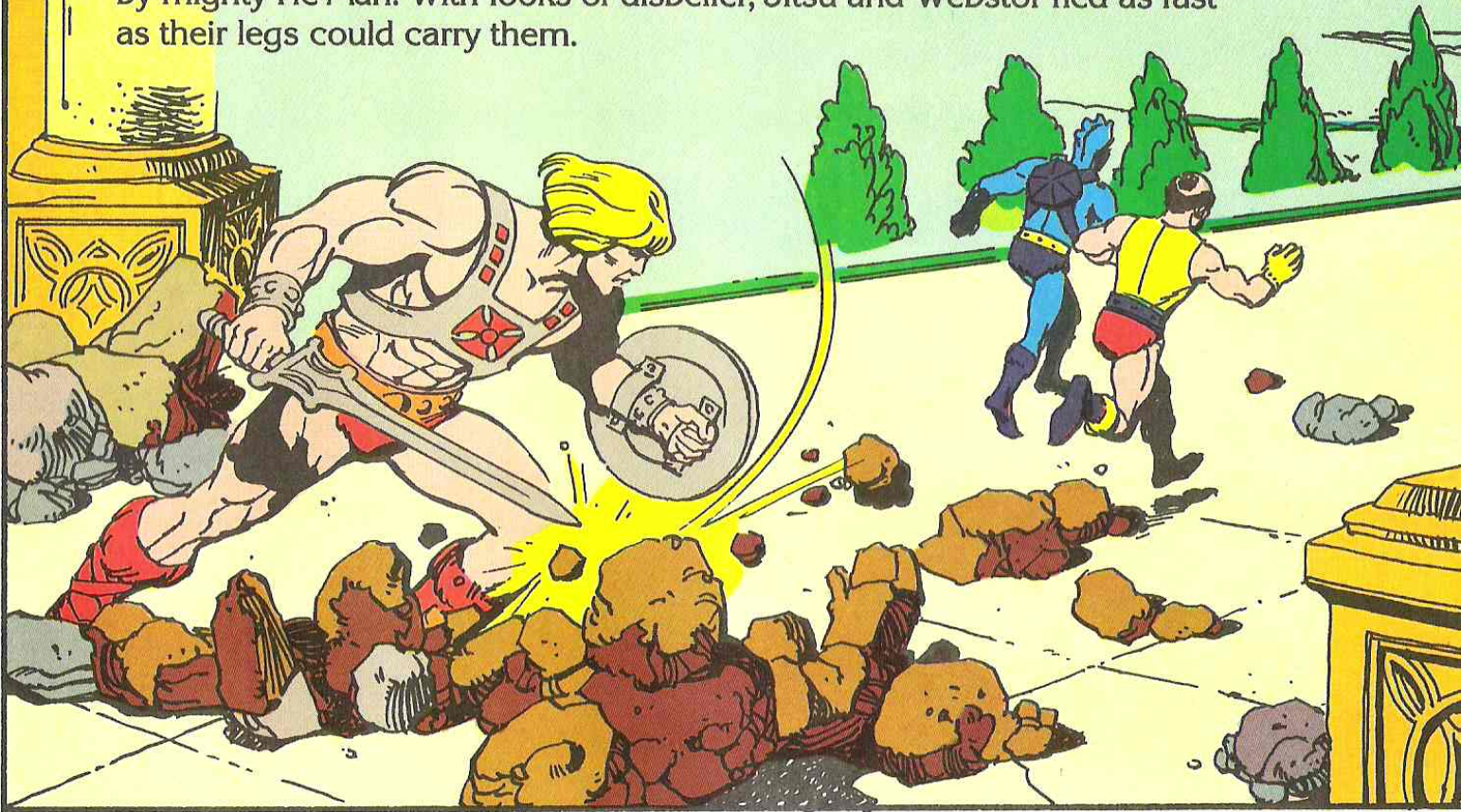
The palace was about to fall under the terrible wrath of Skeletor and more Rock Warriors that he had made.



In all the history of Eternia, never had the palace witnessed such a battle.
And it grew worse as Skeletor produced more and more
Rock Warriors.

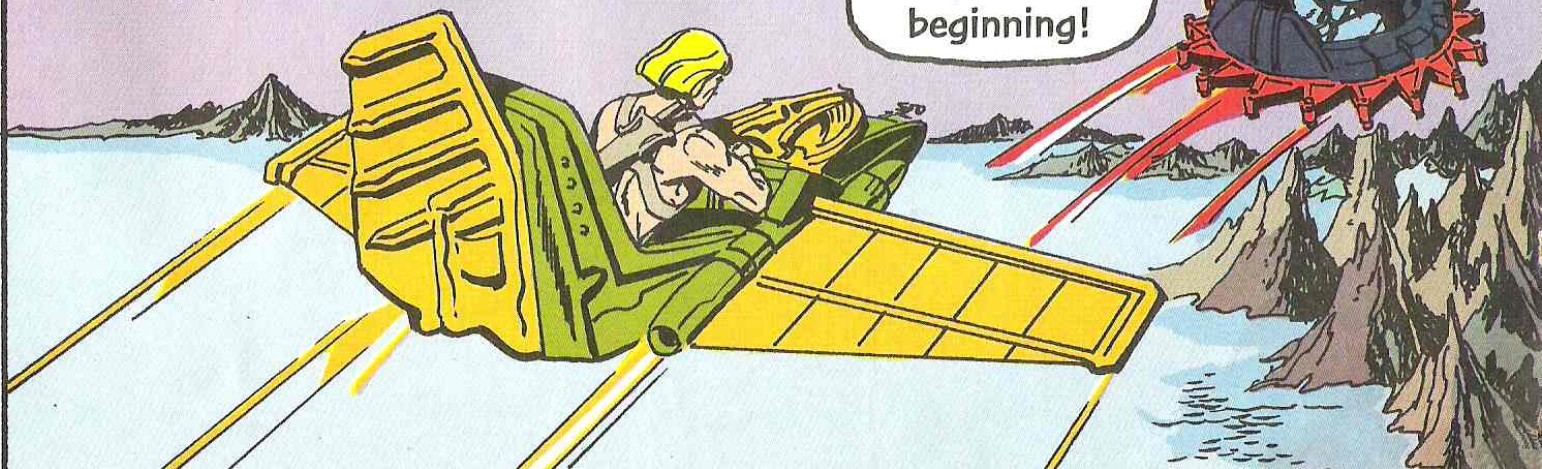


Despite their overwhelming numbers, the Rock Warriors were defeated by mighty He-Man. With looks of disbelief, Jitsu and Webstor fled as fast as their legs could carry them.



The victory was complete, and He-Man chased Skeletor back to Snake Mountain in the speedy Wind Raider.

Be warned,
He-Man. This
is just the
beginning!



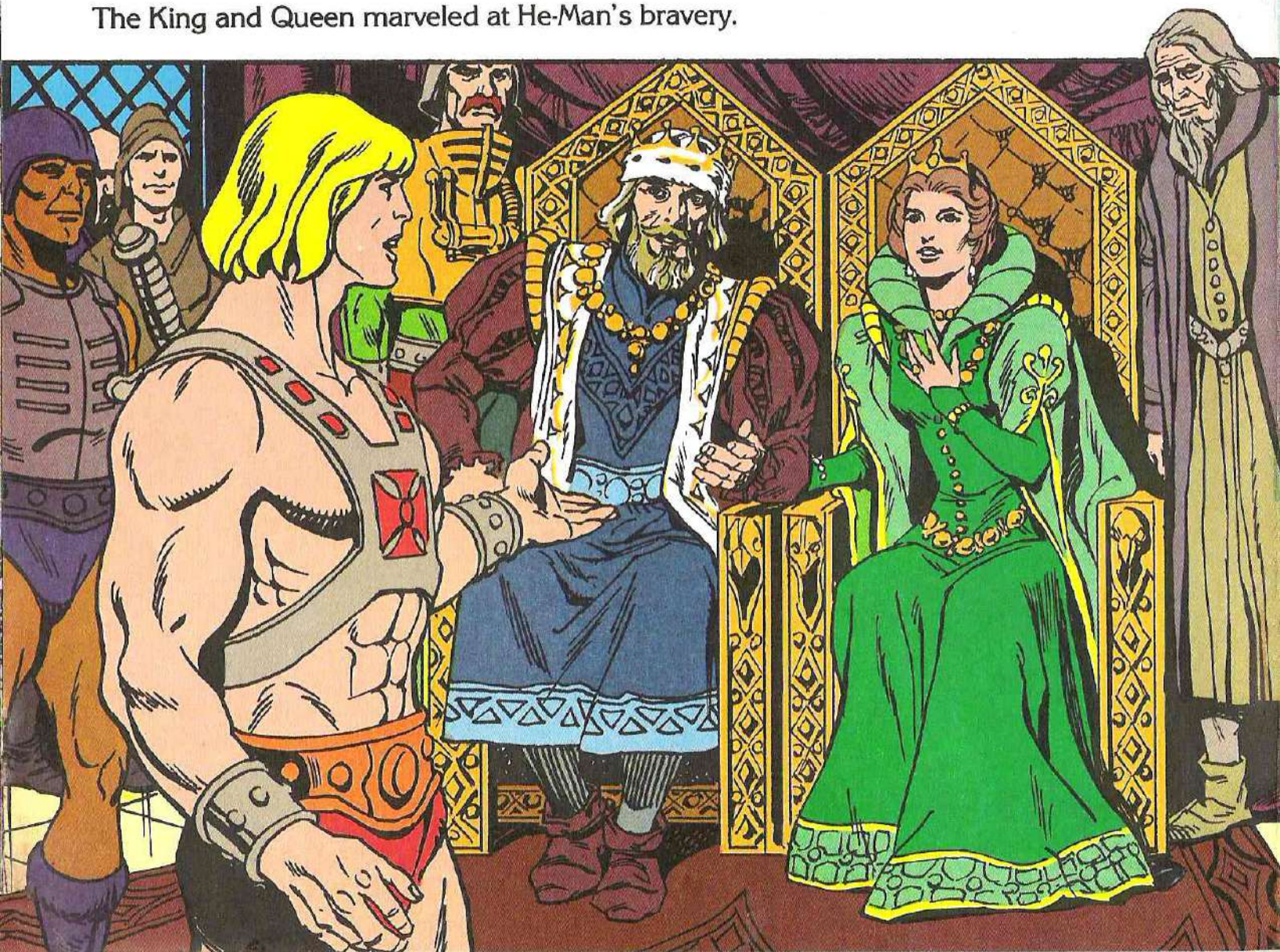
At the palace, He-Man told King Randor and Queen Marlena of Skeletor's threat.

"Then surely he will attack again," said the King.

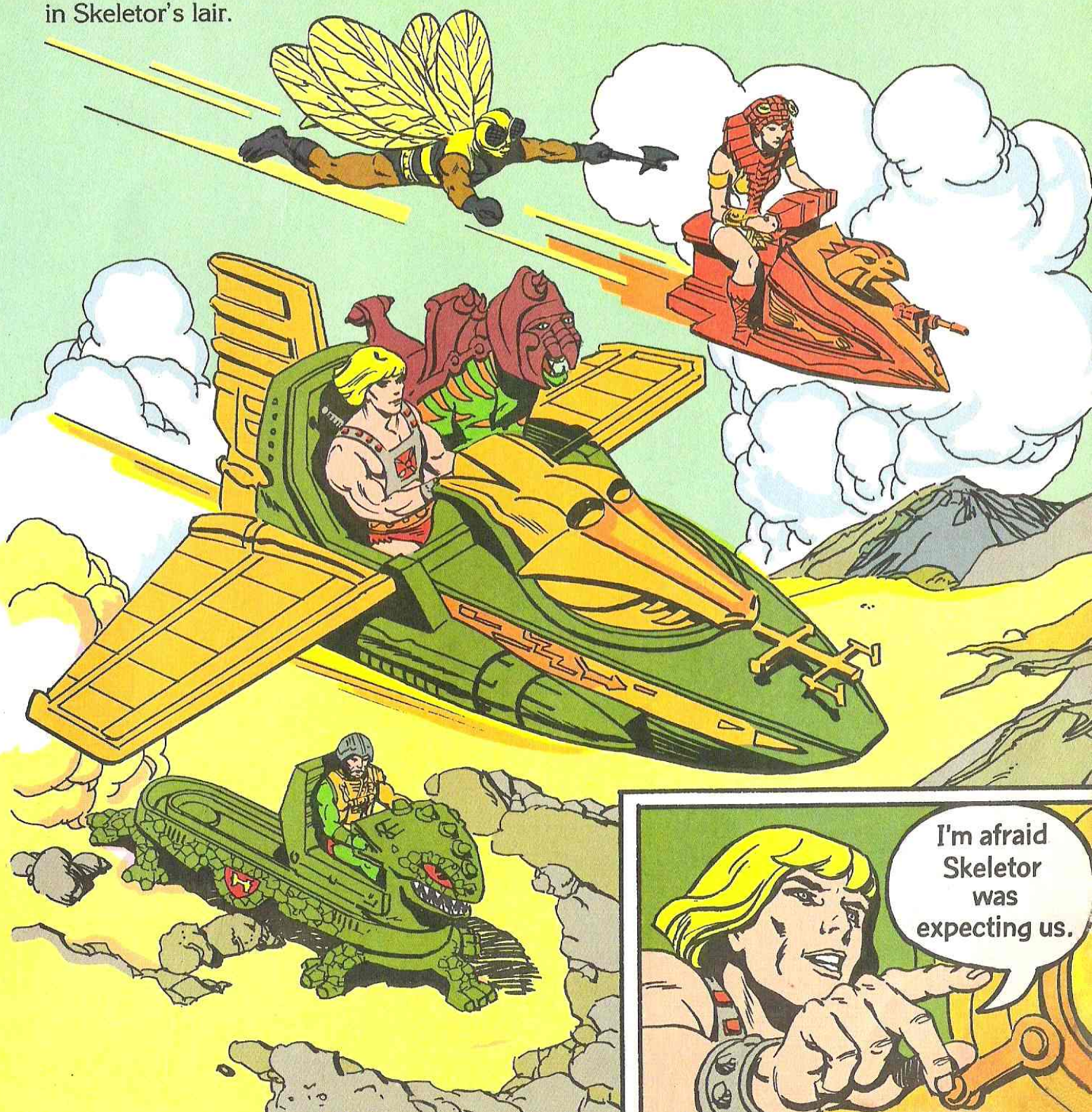
"Next time, he will have even more of those horrible Rock Warriors," the Queen added.

"Do not fear," He-Man said gallantly. "I will go to Snake Mountain and destroy the Stone Ray."

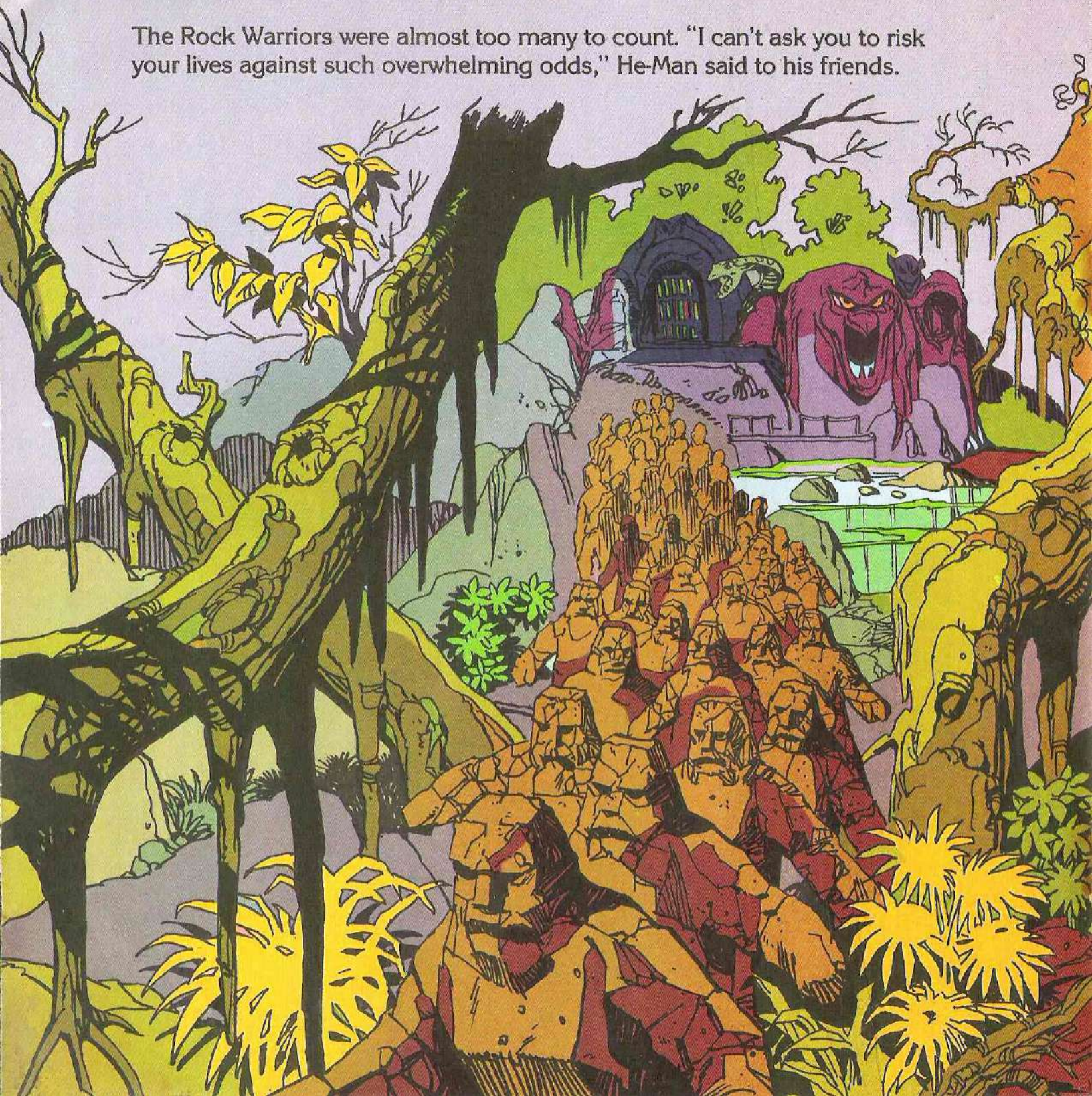
The King and Queen marveled at He-Man's bravery.



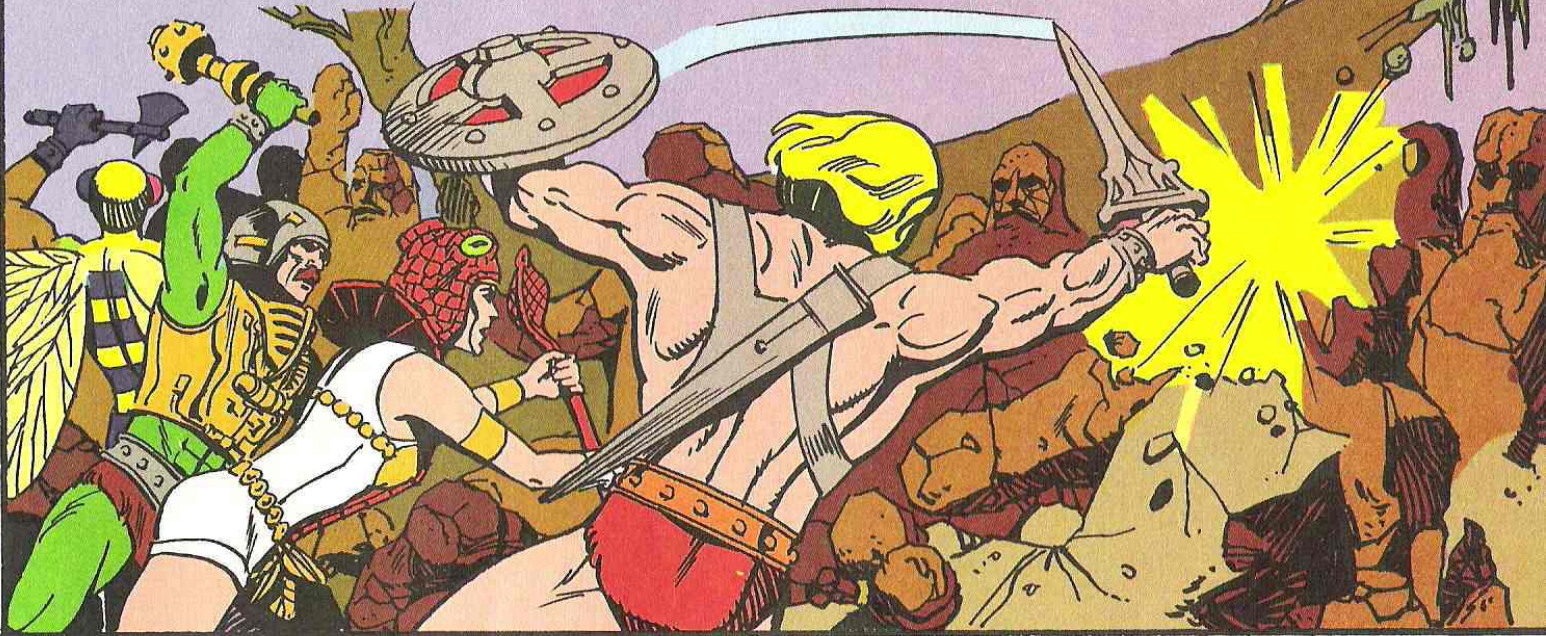
He-Man, joined by his friends, headed for the unknown dangers that awaited in Skeletor's lair.



The Rock Warriors were almost too many to count. "I can't ask you to risk your lives against such overwhelming odds," He-Man said to his friends.



But He-Man's friends would not desert him or their just cause.
Side by side, they fought gallantly.

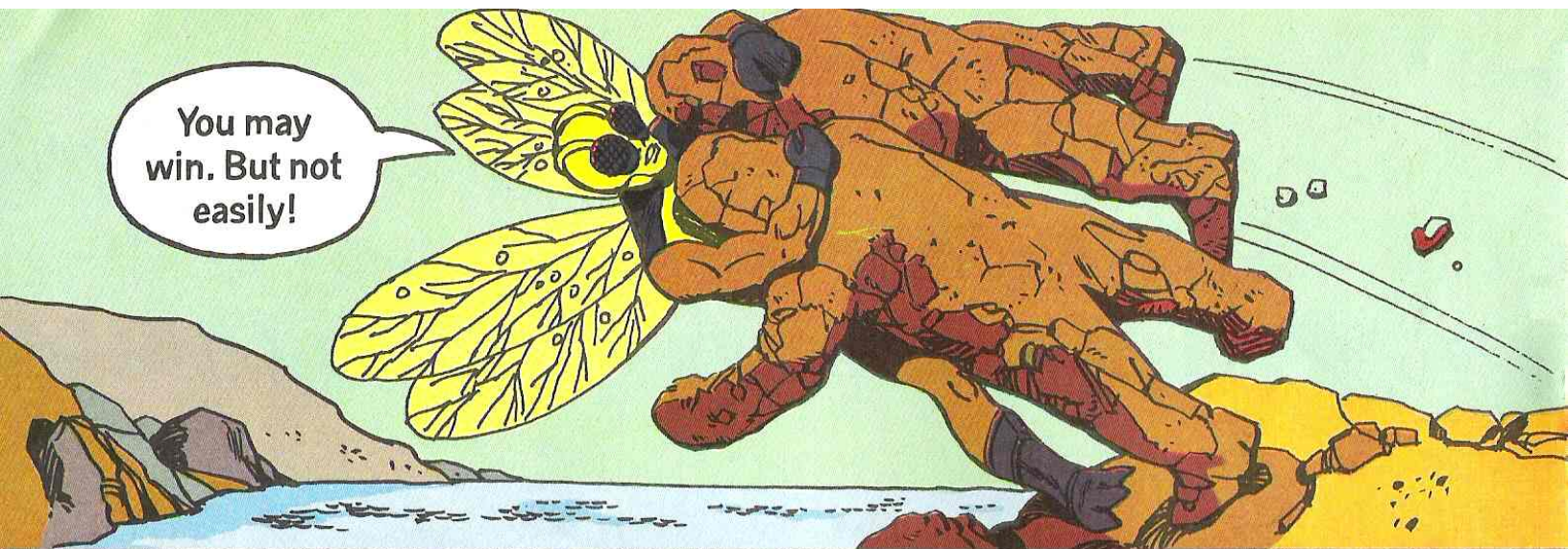


But, all too quickly, the power of the
Rock Warriors began to prevail.

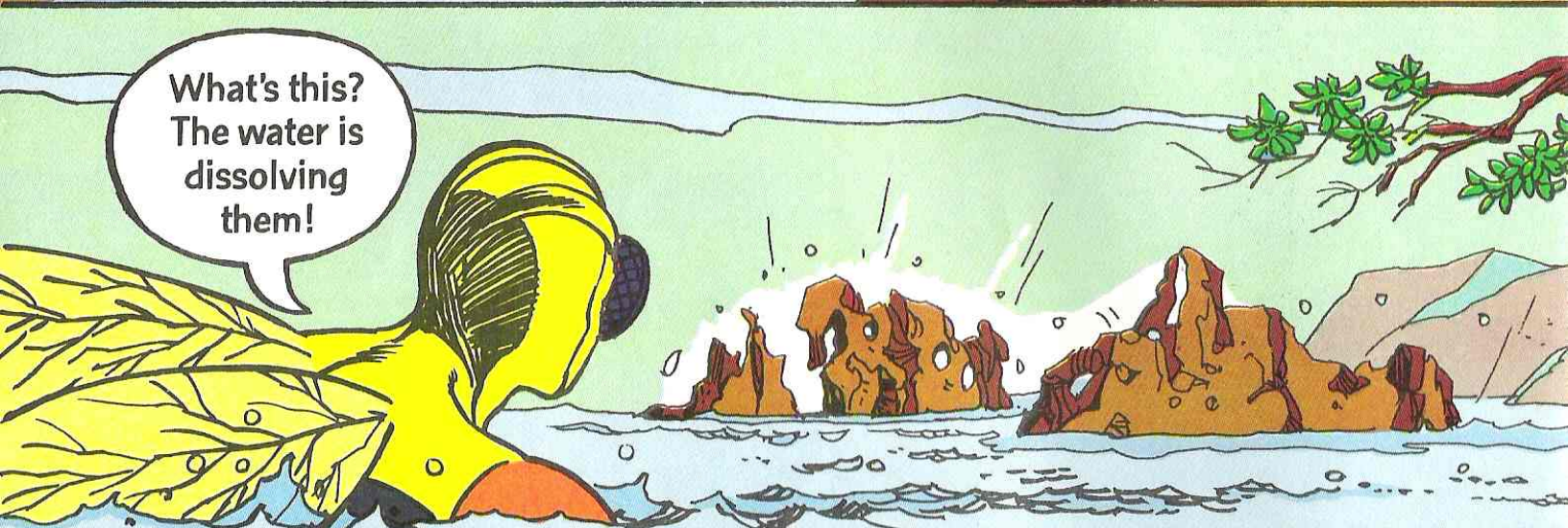


Buzz-Off found himself trapped by a
stream.






You may win. But not easily!



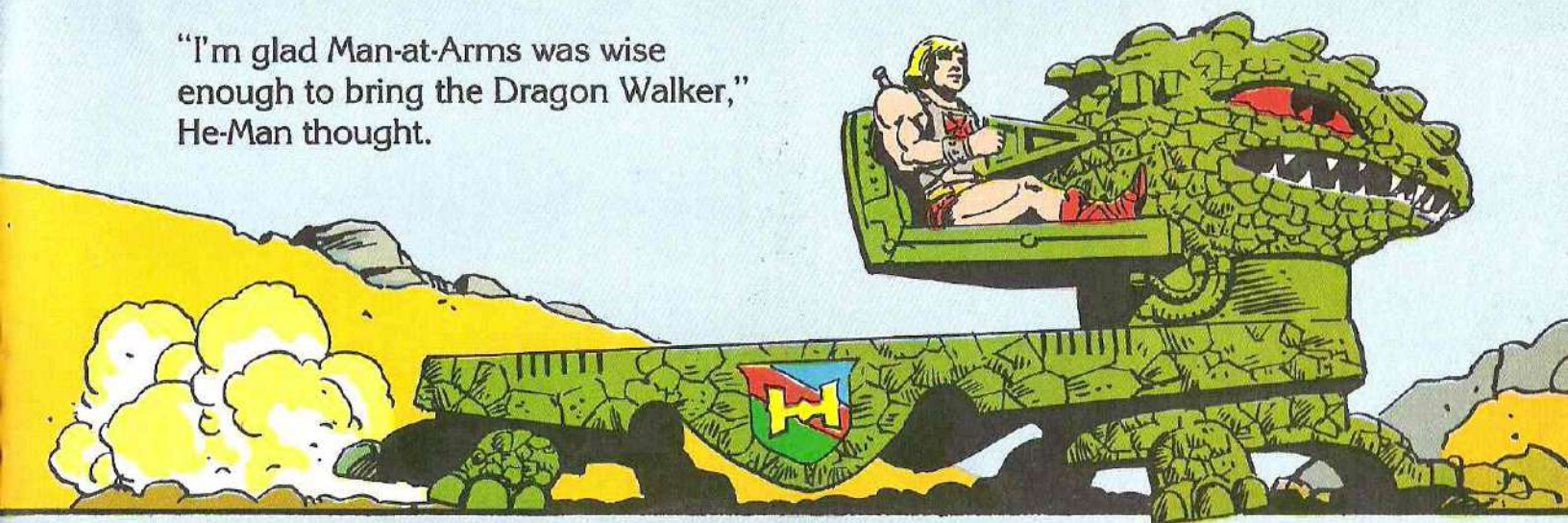
What's this?
The water is dissolving them!

Buzz-Off told He-Man of the Rock Warriors' weakness. He-Man had an idea, but, as he explained to Buzz-Off, he would have to leave the battle.



I'll hold them off.

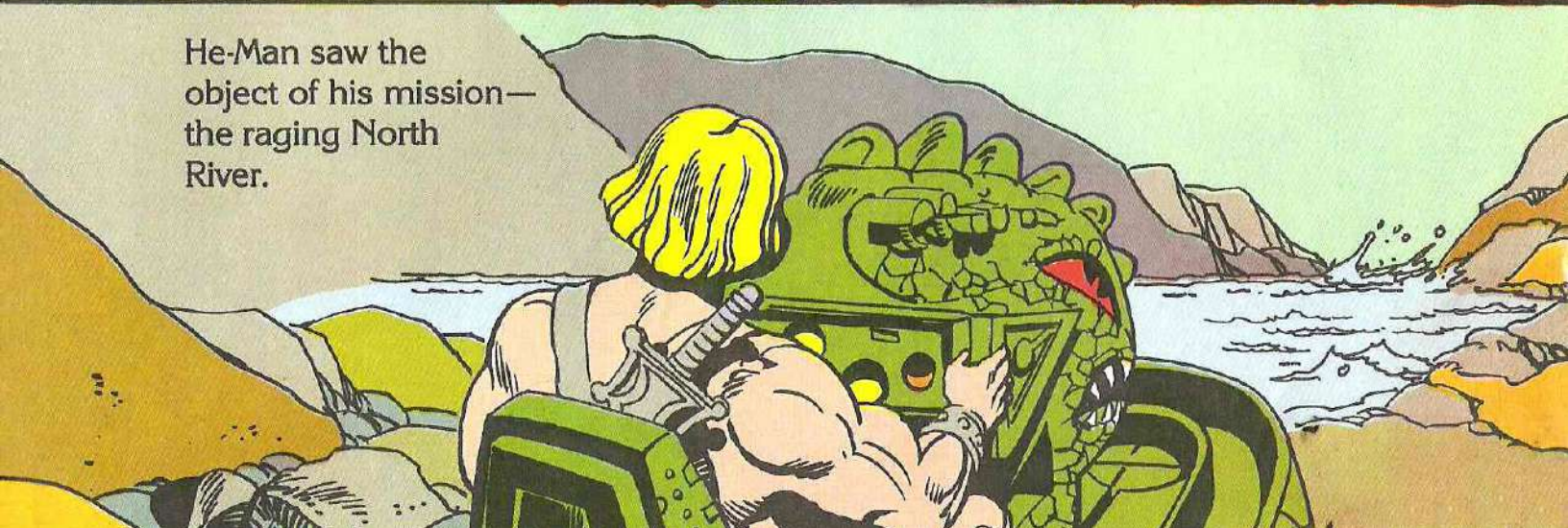
"I'm glad Man-at-Arms was wise enough to bring the Dragon Walker," He-Man thought.



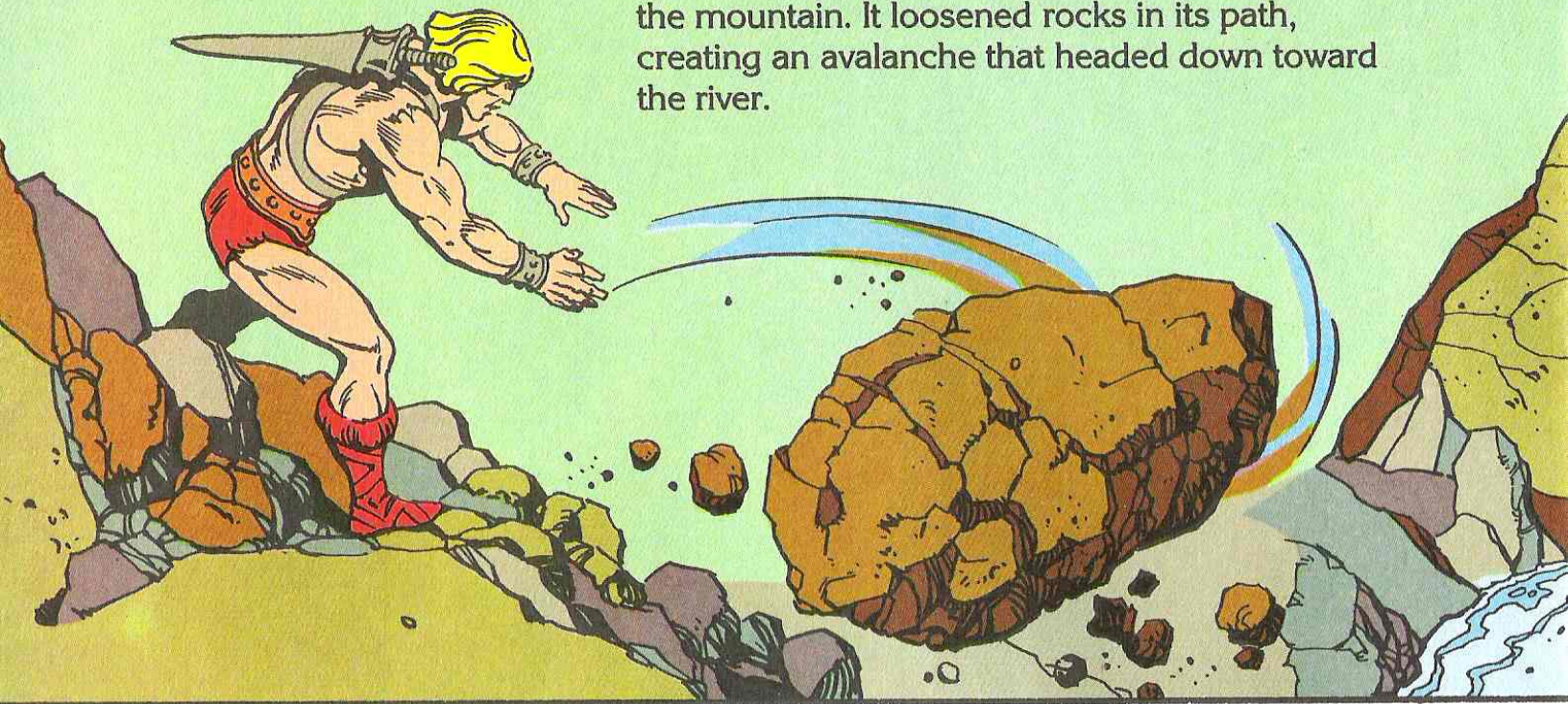
With the help of the Dragon Walker, He-Man crossed an impassable mountain gorge.



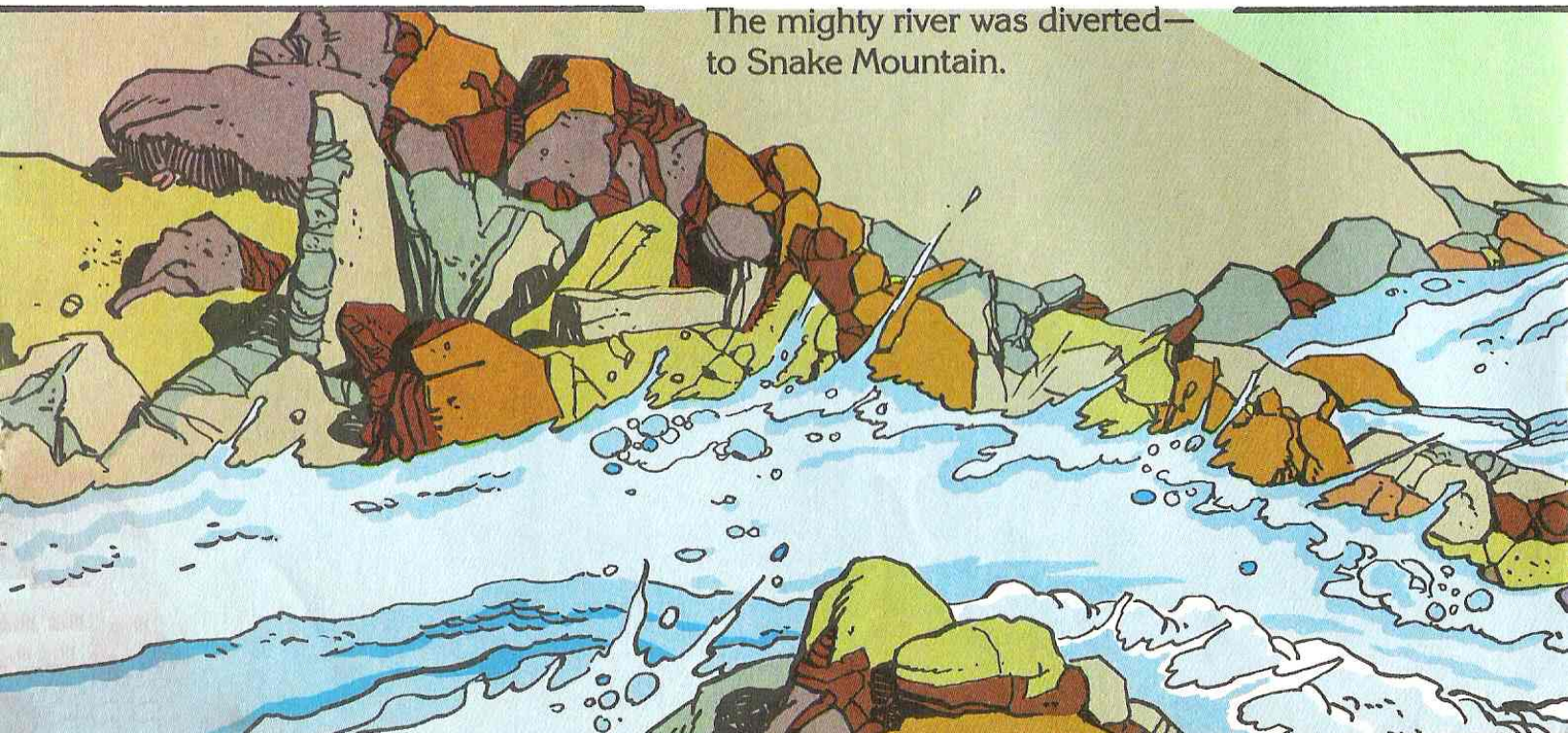
He-Man saw the object of his mission—the raging North River.



He-Man lifted a huge boulder and flung it down the mountain. It loosened rocks in its path, creating an avalanche that headed down toward the river.



The mighty river was diverted—
to Snake Mountain.



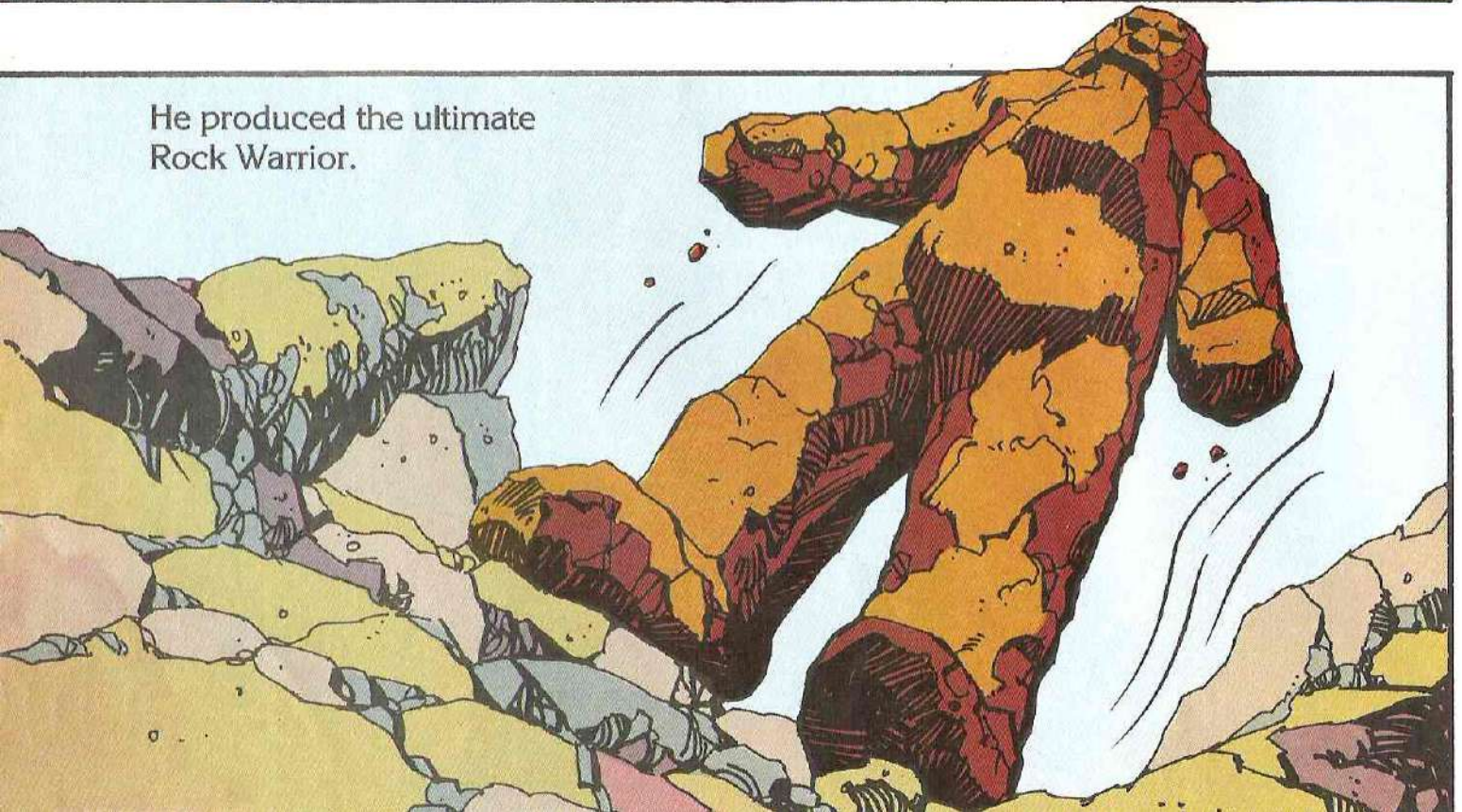
Minutes later, the rushing river reached Snake Mountain. The Rock Warriors were soon covered with water—which was, to them, deadly.



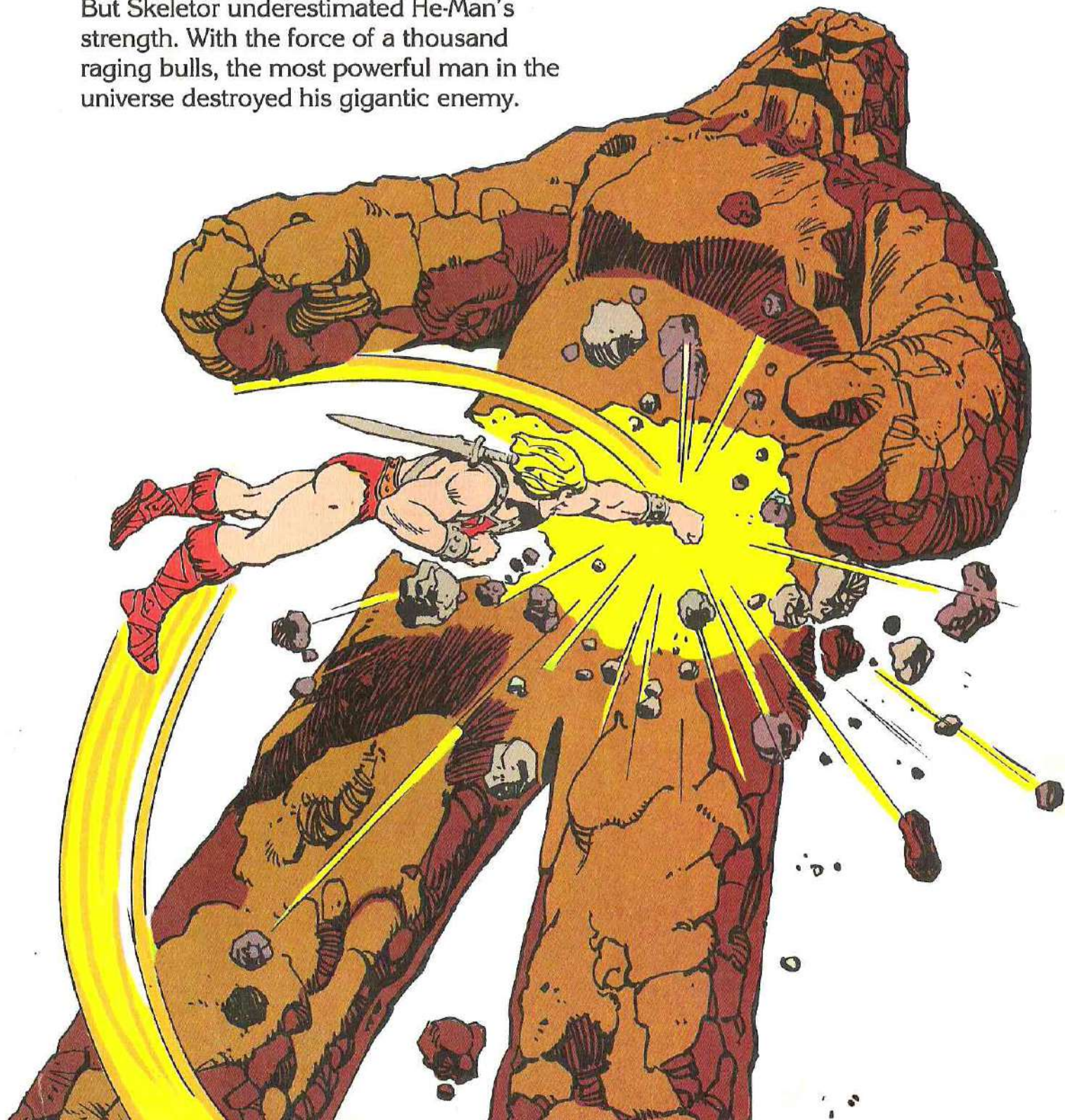
High on his perch atop
Snake Mountain, Skeletor took careful aim.



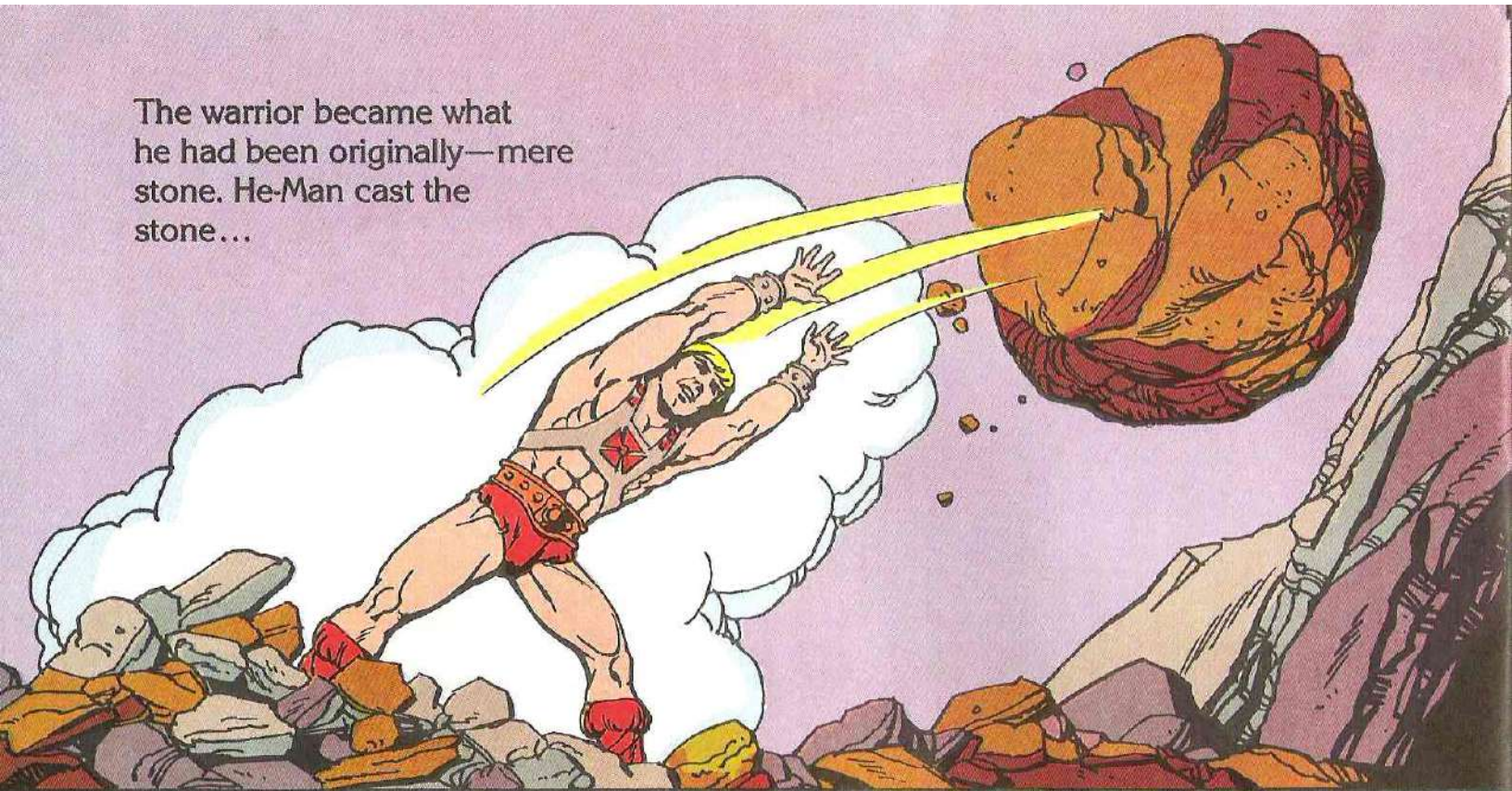
He produced the ultimate
Rock Warrior.



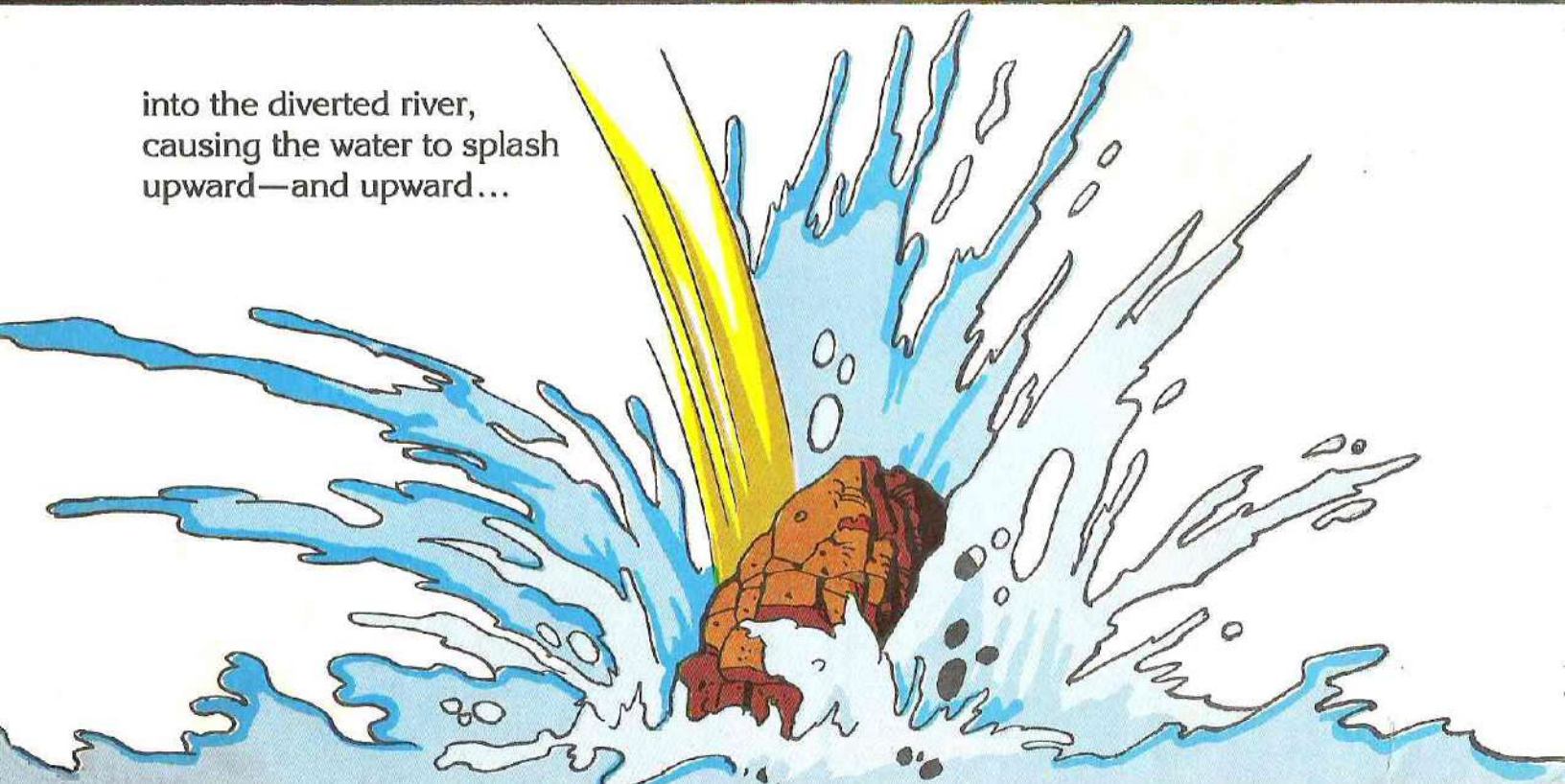
But Skeletor underestimated He-Man's strength. With the force of a thousand raging bulls, the most powerful man in the universe destroyed his gigantic enemy.



The warrior became what he had been originally—mere stone. He-Man cast the stone...



into the diverted river, causing the water to splash upward—and upward...



until it soaked the evil Skeletor and his fiendish Stone Ray.

BLAST! The water dissolves the ray as well.

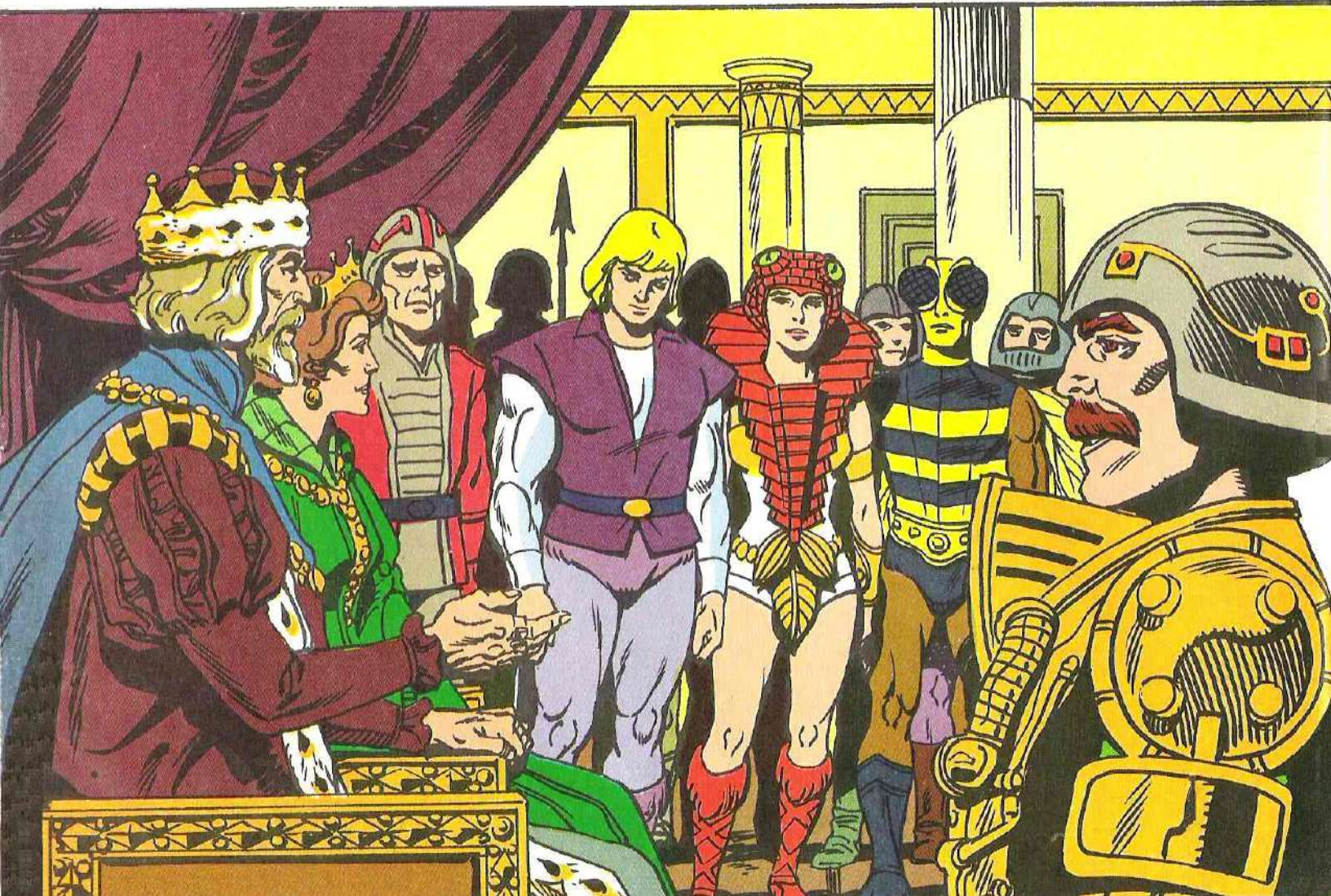


When they returned to the palace, the King looked kindly on his subjects.

"My eternal thanks," he said. "You are all responsible for this happy day." The King hesitated a second and then continued, "All except my son, Prince Adam. You, I am told, fled before the battle even began."

Prince Adam bowed his head. "I am sorry, Father," he said, "but I was afraid."

Man-at-Arms smiled. He knew how brave Prince Adam truly was, and what courage it took to protect the secret of Castle Grayskull.

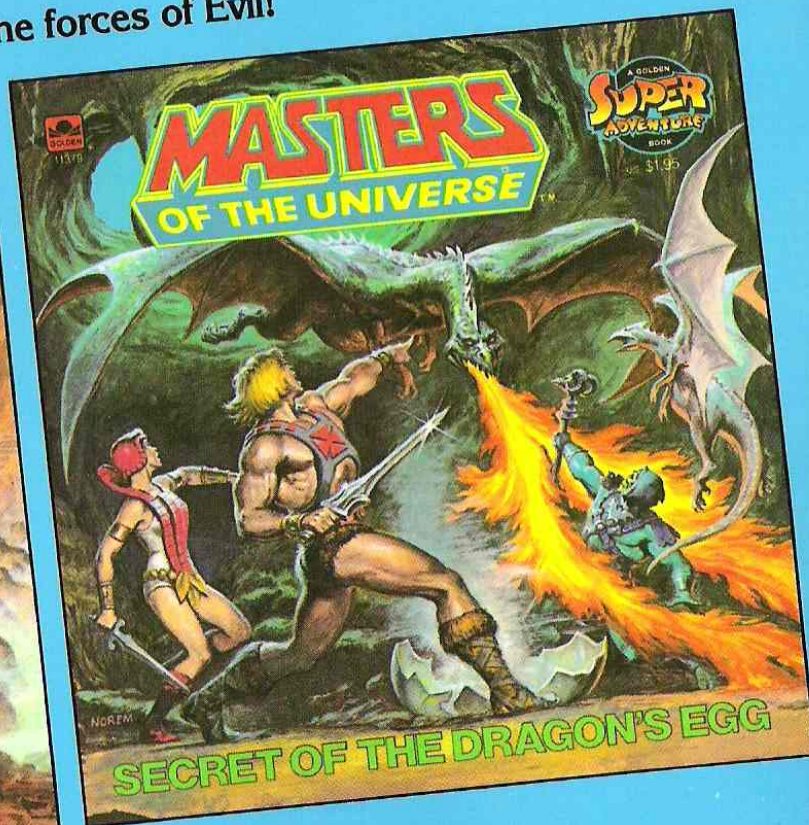
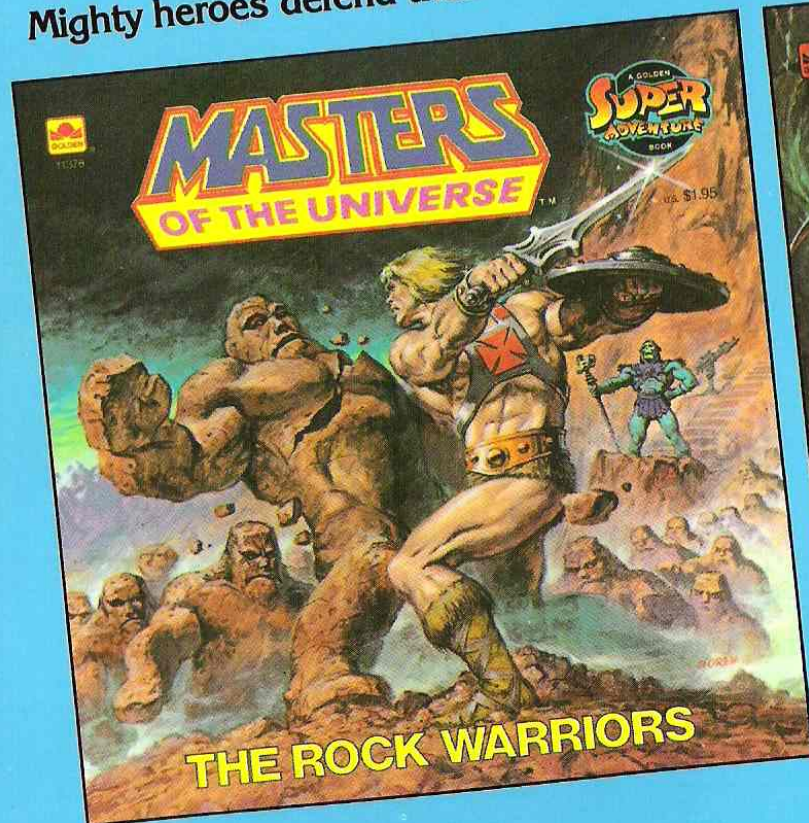


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Cover Art by Earl Norem

ISBN 0-307-11378-7